

II. Alternatives Including the Proposed Action 2-1

This chapter describes the major alternatives considered in drafting the BCCP and includes the information necessary to comply with the requirements of 50 Code of Federal Regulations 17.22(b)(1)(iii): "What alternative actions to such taking the applicant considered and the reasons such alternatives are not proposed to be utilized." Section A outlines the process used to formulate the alternatives. Section B outlines alternatives to the proposed action that were considered and ultimately eliminated from further consideration. Section C presents a description of each alternative considered in detail, including the proposed action. The impacts and mitigation for each of these alternatives are compared in Section D. Finally, Section E identifies the alternative preferred by the USFWS.

- A. Process Used to Formulate the Alternatives 2-1**
- B. Alternatives Eliminated from Further Consideration 2-2**
 - 1. USFWS Would Not Issue Any Section 10(a)(1)(B) Permits 2-2**
 - 2. Mitigation Outside Travis County 2-3**
 - 3. Alternative Study Area/Permit Area Boundaries 2-3**
 - 4. Privatized Alternative 2-5**
- C. Alternatives Considered Including the Proposed Action . . 2-6**
 - 1. Alternative 1: The No Action Alternative 2-6**
 - 2. Alternative 2: Regional Permit (Proposed Action) . . 2-11**

This description contains the applicants habitat conservation plan and complies with the USFWS interpretation of the requirements of 50 CFR 17.22(b)(1)(i): "A complete description of the activity sought to be authorized."

WE DID NOT LIST THE LOWER CASE ALPHABET LEVEL IN THE OUTLINE. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE PORTIONS OF THE FINAL EIS THAT ADDRESSED HCP REQUIREMENTS.

c Incidental Take

This section complies with the USFWS interpretation of the requirements of 50 CFR 17.22(b)(1)(ii): "The common and scientific names of the species sought to be covered by the permit, as well as the number, age, and sex of such species if known." The sex, age, and number of individuals will not be known because of the type of impacts anticipated and the use of habitats as an indicator of species.

d Habitat Preserve

This section fulfills the requirements of 50 CFR 17.22(b)(1)(iii): "What steps the applicant will take to monitor, minimize, and mitigate such impacts . . ."

e BCCP Funding

This section fulfills the requirements of 50 CFR 17.22(b)(1)(iii): ". . . the funding that will be available to implement such steps. . . ."

f Plan Amendment Procedures

Circumstances may arise which necessitate amendments to the Permit and/or BCCP. This section complies with the USFWS interpretation of the requirements of 50 CFR 17.22(b)(1)(iii): ". . . , and the procedures to be used to deal with unforeseen circumstances."